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Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 09275 141412Z

53
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-13 NSAE-00 USIA-06

OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

AGR-05 AGRE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 PA-01 PRS-01 SAM-01

/093 W
---------- 103822
R 141241Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9091
INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIN, ETRD, OECD, IR
SUBJECT: GOI CONTRIBUTIONS TO OPEC DEVELOPMENT FUND AND IFAD

1. ENGLISH LANGUAGE KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL FOR SEPTEMBER 14 REPORTED THAT CABINET YESTERDAY APPROVED ALLOCATION OF $180 MILLION TO OPEC AND $20 MILLION TO INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD). AP TICKER ITEM FOR SAME DATE CARRIED ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON THE $180 MILLION ALLOCATION TO OPEC DEVELOPMENT FUND BUT MADE NO MENTION OF THE $20 MILLION TO IFAD.

2. EMBOFF SPOKE WITH UNDERSECRETARY JAMSHID ASHRAFI IN MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND FINANCE TO SEEK CLARIFICATION OF THE FIGURE GIVEN FOR IFAD. ASHRAFI CONFIRMED EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING THAT CABINET DECISION WAS MERELY FINAL STEP GIVING EFFECT TO A $20 MILLION PLEDGE WHICH IRAN MADE SEVERAL MONTHS AGO. THIS PLEDGE WAS MADE PRIOR TO OPEC'S DECISION TO PLEDGE $400 MILLION TO IFAD, AND
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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 09275 141412Z

GOI SIMPLY PREFERRED TO HAVE $20 MILLION MOVE AHEAD IN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

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ESSENTIALLY BILATERAL MODE.

3. IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF QUERY, ASHRAFI SAID HE BELIEVED BUT COULD NOT BE ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THAT $20 MILLION WAS IN ADDITION TO IRAN'S CONTRIBUTION TO IFAD VIA OPEC OF $104.75 MILLION (SEE PARA FIVE OF ROME 8357) AND THAT THIS WAS THE LIMIT OF IRAN'S PLEDGES TO IFAD THUS FAR. ASHRAFI WAS WELL AWARE OF IMPASSE WHICH HAS DEVELOPED IN THE FUNDING OF IFAD BUT SAID HE HOPED A COMPROMISE COULD BE WORKED OUT. HE APPARENTLY WAS IN THE PICTURE RE OUR PROPOSAL FOR $550 MILLION FROM THE DCS AND $450 MILLION FROM OPEC.

4. IMPORTANT POINT HERE IS THAT GOI CABINET ACTION ON $20 MILLION FOR IFAD NOT RPT NOT IN RESPONSE TO OUR LATEST DEMARCHE TO GOI ON SUBJECT BUT ONLY LAST STEP ON DECISION MADE MANY MONTHS AGO.
HELMS

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